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FILM MUSIC CLASSICS

Playing Time
1:31:23

Dmitry Shostakovich (1906-75) **New Babylon** (1929)

CD 1

43:15

1 Reel 1: General Sale.
‘War – Death to the Prussians’ 9:02
2 Reel 2: Head over Heels. ‘Paris’ 10:01
3 Reel 3: The Siege of Paris 10:51
4 Reel 4: 18th March 1871.
‘On the morning of 18th March the
workers still guarded their guns’ 13:21

CD 2

48:08

1 Reel 5: Versailles against Paris.
‘Paris has stood for centuries’ 10:21
2 Reel 6: The Barricade.
‘The 49th day of defence’ 14:51
3 Reel 7: To the Firing Squad.
‘There is peace and order in Paris’ 10:39
4 Reel 8: Death. ‘The trial’ 8:11
5 Reel 8 (continued): Original ending 4:07

This recording of *New Babylon*, one of Shostakovich's most inventive and truly symphonic film scores, is the first complete recording of all the surviving music from the original ‘lost’ manuscript full score and the first to use five solo string players only, as conceived by the composer. A remarkable collage of marches, can-cans, carnival music, tumultuous rhythms and musical quotations, *New Babylon* bristles with witty dissonance and brassy ebullience, emphasizing the film’s content rather than its visual surface. Mark Fitz-Gerald’s two previous Naxos world première recordings of Shostakovich’s film scores for *Alone* (8.570316) and *The Girlfriends* (8.572138) have been highly acclaimed.

BASEL SINFONIETTA

basel sinfonietta • Mark Fitz-Gerald

Recorded at the Volkshaus, Basel, Switzerland, from 1st to 3rd May, 2011
Producer, Digital editing and Mastering: Andreas Werner
Assistant Producer: Pierre-Alain Biget
Publisher: Internationale Musikverlage Hans Sikorski, Hamburg
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